JUN 2 4 1986

Y 1.1/8: 99-629

99TH CONGRESS
2d Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT
99-629

ORIGINAL

AMENDING THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 11, 1895 (28 STAT. 651), TO AUTHORIZE THE DONATION OF CERTAIN NON-FEDERAL LANDS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

JUNE 11, 1986.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and Ordered to be printed

Mr. UDALL, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

COMPLETED
3

[To accompany H.R. 4259]

[Including the cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 4259) to amend the act of February 11, 1895 (28 Stat. 651), to authorize the donation of certain non-Federal lands within the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 4259 [1] is to authorize the donation by the Gettsyburg Battlefield Preservation Association of a 31-acre parcel, known as the Taney Farm, for inclusion within Gettysburg National Military Park.

BACKGROUND

Gettysburg National Military Park is located in Adams County, PA. The park preserves the important lands and commemorates the events associated with the historic Battle of Gettysburg, which took place between July 1-3, 1863. Originally established in 1895 under the administration of the Secretary of War, the administration of the park was transferred to the National Park Service in 1933.

Gettysburg National Military Park is one of several national park units with no statutory boundary. The enabling legislation establishing the park in 1895 only noted that land for the park may

[1] H.R. 4259 was introduced by Representative Peter Kostmayer on February 26, 1986.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

not exceed in area the parcels shown on the map prepared by Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, and such other adjacent lands as may be necessary to preserve the important topographical features of the battlefield. The present boundary of the park represents the administrative plan for the park that was developed in 1974.

H.R. 4259 authorizes the donation by the nonprofit Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association to the park of the 31-acre Zephaniah Taney Farm. The farm is adjacent to the existing administrative park boundary. It was occupied by Confederate troops during the fighting of July 3, 1863, and was later used as a field hospital. A 1978 report of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation identified the Taney Farm as a "critical area."

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

A hearing was held on H.R. 4259 by the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation on May 15, 1986. At the meeting of the subcommittee on May 22, 1986, H.R. 4259 was favorably recommended to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs ordered the bill favorably reported to the House by voice vote on June 4, 1986.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

H.R. 4259 authorizes the donation by the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation association of approximately 31 acres of land known as the Taney Farm for administration as part of the Gettysburg National Military Park. The land is to be conveyed at no cost to the United States.

The committee is aware that the National Park Service has undertaken a study of the historically important lands associated with the Battle of Gettysburg, to clear up ambiguities in the boundary of the park. This study should be completed in a timely manner and a copy made available to the committee. The committee expects that in undertaking this study, the National Park Service will consult with members of the community and their elected representatives at all levels of government, as well as interested historians and historical groups.

OVERSIGHT STATEMENT

The committee intends to carefully monitor the implementation of this legislation to assure compliance with the intent of the act, but no specific oversight hearings have been conducted on this matter. No recommendations were submitted to the committee pursuant to rule X, clause 2(b)(2).

COST AND INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

The committee finds that enactment of this measure would have no inflationary impact on the national economy. Since the lands involved are to be donated, no acquisition costs are contemplated and no significant operation and maintenance costs should result from enactment of H.R. 4259. The analysis of the Congressional Budget office, which the committee adopts as its own, follows:

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 5, 1986.

Hon. MORRIS K. UDALL,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 4259, a bill to amend the act of February 11, 1895 (28 Stat. 651), to authorize the donation of certain non-Federal lands within the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, June 4, 1986. Enactment of this bill is not expected to have any significant impact on the Federal budget.

H.R. 4259 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to accept the donation of the 31-acre Taney Farm for inclusion within the Gettysburg National Military Park. Because the site contains no structures, its inclusion is not expected to add significantly to the annual costs of operating and maintaining the park.

No costs would be incurred by State or local governments as a result of enactment of this bill.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

RUDOLPH G. PENNER.

○

BEST COPY AVAILABLE